GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4146
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005
QUALITY OF MEDICAL SERVICES IN CLINICS/NURSING HOMES
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that complaints are being made from time to time regarding quality of services provided by the private clinics ,nursing homes and other medical institutions ;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government proposes to prescribe minimum standard for employees working there and also for providing basic facilities ;

(c) whether the Union Government has sent a draft proposal in this regard to the State Governments to get it passed by their respective legislative assemblies; and

(d) if so, the details of the State Governments which have passed the proposal and intimated the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (DR.ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) to (d): Health being a State subject, it is for the State Governments to regulate/monitor the functioning of private clinics, nursing homes and other medical institutions within its jurisdiction as well as to attend the complaints made from time to time and to prescribe minimum standard for employees working there and providing basic facilities.

The Central Government is in the process of formulating standards and specifications for hospitals, nursing homes and other clinical establishments to ensure quality health care services including norms for assessment, accreditation, inspection, certification, regulation of such clinical establishment as well as maintenance of records.

In the year 2001, a reference was made to all the States seeking the consent of their legislatures under Article 252 of the Constitution for enactment of a Central legislation in this regard. The States of Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh have given their consent.